



This resource was compiled from
information provided to the:
RI Department of Human Services
Office of Rehabilitation Services
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www.ors.state.ri.us

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Rhode Island
Department of Human Services
Office of Rehabilitation Services
Family Independence Program (FIP)

The Rhode Island “Learning Disabilities Project” Resource Guide



Your beacon to the future



**RI Department of Human Service
Office of Rehabilitation Services**

40 Fountain Street
Providence RI 02903
(401) 421-7005
www.ors.state.ri.us/vrld.htm

Individuals who believe that they have a learning disability which substantially interferes with their ability to get or keep a job and want assistance may be eligible for employment services through ORS. Applicants who receive FIP (Family Independence Program) cash assistance for themselves and their children may contact the **ORS/FIP Learning Disabilities Project** – Elinor Pickering at 421-7005 x348 for more information. Individuals not on FIP can contact the ORS Intake at (401) 421-7005 for more information on applying for services. Vocational accommodations may also be provided, such as assistive technology devices – spellcheckers, tape recorders.

DHS does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, age, religion or sex in acceptance for or provision of services, employment or treatment in its educational and other programs and activities. For further information about this policy, contact: the Community Relations Liaison Officer, (401) 462-2130 or TDD (hearing impaired) (401) 462-6239.

If you need this in an alternate format (i.e., Braille, diskette, cassette), please contact Sharon DiPinto at (401) 421-7005 ext. 318.

www.ors.state.ri.us

Educational Services

Community College of Rhode Island

Knight Campus
400 East Avenue
Warwick RI 02886

Flanagan Campus
1762 Louisquisset Pike
Lincoln RI 02865

Providence Campus
One Hilton Street
Providence RI 02905

www.ccri.cc.ri.us

Academic Accommodations

Contact: Tracy Karrasinski
(401) 825-2305



CCRI offers academic accommodations for all students with a documented disability. Accommodations include, but are not limited to: tape recorded lectures, extended time, alternate format for exams and use of adapted computer equipment.

Access to Opportunity
Contact: Tracy Karrasinski
(401) 825-2305

Access to Opportunity is a grant-funded retention program that provides support services to first-generation, low-income students and students with disabilities.



CCRI/REACH (Realizing Educational and Career Hopes)
Contact: Pauline Hamlin
(401) 825-2290 (Knight Campus)
E-mail: phamlin@ccri.cc.ri.us

The REACH program is sponsored by CCRI and the RI Department of Human Services and provides services to FIP (Family Independence Program) participants who are interested in attending post secondary education. REACH offers informal academic LD assessment, TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education) testing, ESOL, GED Preparation, and remediation with one-to-one tutoring available tailored to the student's individual learning needs. REACH services are also available at CCRI's Newport site...contact the Knight Campus for details.

LD Assessment and Accommodations

URI Testing Service
Feinstein College of Continuing Education
80 Washington Street
Providence RI 02903

Contact: Bob Mason at
Rhode Island Department of Education
(401) 222-4600 x2180
E-mail: ride/1555@ride.ri.net

The RI Department of Education and URI Testing Service have entered into a cooperative agreement to provide psycho-educational evaluations for economically disadvantaged students enrolled in adult education programs in RI. First priority is given to students in programs that receive funding from the RI Department of Education. Adult education program staff make the request for testing in writing. Contact Bob Mason at the RI Dept of Education for details of the referral procedure.



Internet Resources

**Division of Adult Education and Literacy Clearinghouse
US Department of Education**

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/division.html>

**ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult, Career, and Vocational
Education**

<http://ericacve.org>

International Dyslexia Association (IDA)

<http://www.interdys.org>

Job Accommodations Network (JAN)

<http://www.interdys.org>

LD Online: Learning Disability Resources

<http://www.ldonline.org>

Learning Disabilities of America (LDA)

<http://www.ldanal.org>

Literacy Resources/Rhode Island

http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Sweaver_Center/Literacy_Resources/Centers/centers.html

**National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center
(NALLDC)**

<http://ld-read.org>

National Institute for Literacy

<http://novel.nifl.gov>

Dorcas Place Parent Literacy Center

270 Elmwood Avenue

Providence RI 02907

(401) 273-8866

www.dorcasplace.org

Dorcas Place provides classroom and one-on-one tutoring instruction from basic literacy through GED preparation. Work readiness, job placement, and supportive social services are also available. Classroom instructors utilize the “Scottish Rite Adult Literacy Program”, designed to teach reading and writing skills to individuals with learning disabilities.

Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA)

260 W. Exchange Street

Suite 201-202

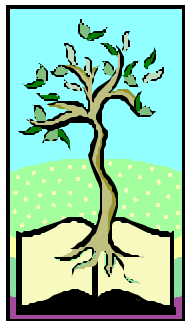
Providence RI 02903

(401) 861-0815

www.lvai.org

The LVA utilizes volunteers to provide individual tutoring to students in eight locations. Some sites have tutors trained in the “Wilson Reading System”, a phonics-based approach to teaching reading, writing, and spelling skills to adults with dyslexia and LD.

<i>Adult Correctional Institute</i>	<i>(401) 462-2538</i>
<i>Coventry</i>	<i>(401) 822-9103</i>
<i>Newport</i>	<i>(401) 846-1265</i>
<i>North Kingstown</i>	<i>(401) 294-3303</i>
<i>Providence</i>	<i>(401) 351-0511</i>
<i>Warren</i>	<i>(401) 247-2177</i>
<i>Westerly</i>	<i>(401) 596-9411</i>

**Project LEARN**

Contact: Susan Grislis
PO Box 567
One Social Street
Woonsocket RI 02895
(401) 769-4200
E-mail: LEARNri@aol.com

Classes also available at:

*Central Falls Free Public Library
205 Central Street
Central Falls RI 02863*

Project LEARN provides individual instruction to adults with suspected or diagnosed learning disabilities. Certified instructors utilize the “Wilson Reading System”, a highly structured, multisensory, phonemic approach to teaching reading, writing, and spelling.

Project LEARN’s “**Accelerated Basic Skills Program**” is designed for students whose reading and/or math skills fall below a 6th grade level and who are not able to participate in job training or pre-GED or GED classes.

Opportunity Resources, Inc.

101 Main Street, Suite 304
Pawtucket, RI 02860
(401) 861-1895

Opportunity Resources is a service provider for adults with disabilities including Family Independent Program participants. Computer training and job readiness skills with a concentration in Microsoft and Excel are provided.

People In Partnerships

200 Main Street, Suite 230
Pawtucket, RI 02860
(401) 727-8002
pipartnrship@aol.com

PIP is a vocational training and placement program with programs in Child Care, Certified Nursing Assistant, Food Service, Housekeeping/Maintenance, Human Services, and Office Assistant/Computers.

Projects With Industry, Inc.

40 Fountain Street
Providence RI 02903
(401) 861-4460
PWIRI@worldnet.att.net

Projects With Industry, Inc, is a non-profit cooperation whose goal is to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Employment Services

Rhode Island Department of Human Services Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)

40 Fountain Street
Providence RI 02903
(401) 421-7005
www.ors.state.ri.us

The Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS) assists eligible individuals with disabilities choose, prepare for, obtain, and maintain employment. Applications can be completed by mail or by attending a group orientation session. Call the main number for details.

The **FIP/ORS “Learning Disabilities Project”** helps identify parents on FIP cash assistance with learning disabilities and provides needed services in order for them to become economically self-sufficient. As with other ORS services, individuals need to have a goal of employment to participate. Call Elinor Pickering at (401) 421-7005 x348 for more information.

Goodwill Industries, Inc.

100 Houghton Street
Providence RI 02904
(401) 861-2080

Goodwill provides vocational evaluation, vocational assessments, job placement and other employment-related services to individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

Howard R. Swearer Center for Public Service

25 George Street
Providence RI 02912
(401) 863-2338
Sara Whetstone, Coordinator
Alison Simmons, Supervisor
www.brown.edu/Departments/Swearer_Center

The Swearer Center offers innovative, community-based programs to fill gaps in existing services, including the following:

PIE (Partners in Education)

PIE is a tutoring program serving women who are unable to attend traditional adult education courses due to lack of transportation and childcare. While not specifically designed for individuals with LD, the one-to-one tutoring that is provided by volunteers in the student’s home may be useful to individuals in need of adult basic education or GED preparation.

Swearer ABE Program

Swearer’s Adult Basic Education program provides individual tutoring to adult learners in various locations in the Greater Providence Community. The instruction is not LD-specific, but individuals with LD may find the one-to-one approach helpful.

Advocacy/Support Services

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Hotline (800) 228-4689

The ADA Hotline provides information and assistance regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act and can answer questions about how the ADA protects individuals with learning disabilities.

RI Disability Law Center 349 Eddy Street Providence RI 02903 (401) 831-3150 (voice) ~ (401) 831-5335 (TTY)

This organization provides legal assistance or aid for people with special needs or disability-related issues.

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities 41 Cherry Dale Court Cranston RI 02920 (401) 462-0100 (voice) ~ (401) 462-0101 (TTY)

Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (CHADD) PO Box 8251 Cranston RI 02920 (401) 943-9399 CHADD provides information and support groups for those with ADD/ADHD.

Rhode Island Legal Services 56 Pine Street Providence, RI 02903 (401) 274-2652

Legal services provided in certain family, housing, elderly, health and public benefit cases.

Rhode Island Parent Information Network 175 Main Street Pawtucket RI 02860 (401) 727-4144 www.ripin@ripin.org

Many adults with LD, ADD/ADHD, or dyslexia also have children with these problems. RIPIN is a non-profit organization that seeks to improve the educational and life outcomes for children, particularly those with disabilities. RIPIN provides information, training, referrals, support, and networking services to parents who may need assistance in getting appropriate services for their children.

Learning Disabilities of America Linda DiCecco – Rhode Island Representative (401) 946-6968 E-mail: Lindixx@email.com

LDA is a national organization promoting public awareness, advocacy, educational intervention, employment opportunities and related services for adults and children with learning disabilities.